

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (U-5712-C) and Forstmann Little & Co. Equity Partnership-VII, L. P.; Forstmann Little & Co. Subordinated Debt & Equity Management Buyout Partnership-VIII, L. P.; Forstmann Little & Co. Equity Partnership-V, L. P.; Forstmann Little & Co. Subordinated Debt & Equity Management Buyout Partnership-VI, L. P.; and Forstmann Little & Co. Subordinated Debt & Equity Management Buyout Partnership-VII, L. P. for Expedited, Ex Parte Approval of the Indirect Transfer of Control of McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc.

Application 02-02-017
(Filed February 15, 2002)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
SHORTENING PROTEST PERIOD**

On February 15, 2002, the applicants filed a motion to shorten the time period for filing protests to this application to 15 days. The applicants say that no party will be prejudiced by the request because the application contains all information necessary to determine whether they wish to file a protest. In addition, the applicants say that the Commission's approval is necessary by April 5, 2002, because confirmation hearings before the Bankruptcy Court begin on that date. After review of the application, I find that it contains all information necessary for parties to determine whether they wish to file a protest. Therefore, in order to allow for the Commission's consideration of the application on or before April 5, 2002, I will grant the request.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that the period for filing a protest to this application is reduced to 15 days.

Dated February 25, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JEFFREY P. O'DONNELL

Jeffrey P. O'Donnell
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Shortening Protest Period on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated February 25, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ KE HUANG

Ke Huang

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to ensure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.